

Albright, David

From: Higuchi, Dean
Sent: Sunday, June 23, 2013 12:30 PM
To: Yap, Kehau (Hirono)
Cc: Albright, David; Rao, Kate
Subject: RE: Urgent Meeting Re: Hana Health Center on Monday, June 24, 2013 @ 2pm Conference Room 329

Hi Kehau,

Here's the website on LCC's in Hawaii, <http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/groundwater/uic-hicesspools.html>

I've also cc'ed David Albright and Kate Rao in our Groundwater Office that manages the EPA LCC program. Not sure about the "fines" but if it is a LCC, it does need to be brought into compliance, or they can be penalties/fines.

So they should be contacting Kate Rao to notify they have a LCC and their plans to bring it into compliance, which will be the first step.

Thanks!

Dean

From: Yap, Kehau (Hirono) [Kehau_Yap@hirono.senate.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 21, 2013 5:11 PM
To: Higuchi, Dean
Subject: FW: Urgent Meeting Re: Hana Health Center on Monday, June 24, 2013 @ 2pm Conference Room 329

Dean,

Attached is the letter I mentioned in my voice mail regarding the Hana Health Center's cesspool that needs to be upgraded or the State will be fined by the EPA. Can you provide me with some background information on this situation before the meeting on Monday 6/24 at 2pm?

Thank you,
Kehau

Kehau Yap
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

June 21, 2013

Aloha Everyone:

It has come to my attention that the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has visited the Hana Medical Center because they thought the facility was still being run by the state as a medical center but in fact the state leases that property to the Hana Health Center which is our only community health facility in East Maui.

The problem is that the EPA has written a letter with their concerns regarding the cesspool on that property needing to be converted to a new upgraded waste water system otherwise the state will be fined \$37,000 per day if this is not taken care of in 60 days.

As a result of this letter from the EPA, DLNR has issued a Notice of Default to Hana Health Center (the Lessee) saying that if they don't correct this problem within 60-days, they are going to cancel their general lease. This makes no sense to cancel their lease when its the State that will be fined according to EPA and not the lessee.

I am very concerned about this situation because the State doesn't have an extra \$37,000 per day (fine amount) until the situation is cured. This could take up to two or more years to remedy the situation.

So instead of calling all of you and explaining the situation, I am calling an URGENT meeting on Monday, June 24, 2013 at 2:00pm in conference room 329.

The Executive Director of Hana Health Center, Cheryl Vasconcellos will be present at this meeting and will explain the situation that is before us.

If you are unable to attend this meeting, please send someone to represent you at this meeting.

This critical situation will have major impacts to the residents and visitors of East Maui which I represent. It is the only medical facility in that area. The next closest medical facility is Maui Memorial Medical Hospital in Wailuku which is about a 2 1/2 hour drive.

Please attend this meeting so we can figure out how we can all work together in remedying the situation where there is a win-win outcome. We are losing time and days and need everyone's help.

I apologize for not giving you more advance notice. If you would like to speak to me directly, please call me at (808) 586-6790 or email me at repcarroll@capitol.hawaii.gov. Please also RSVP your attendance. It is greatly appreciated. I look forward to seeing everyone at this meeting.

Sincerely & Mahalo,

Representative Mele Carroll

Representative Mele Carroll ~ Chair of Human Services Committee
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